

Attractions: Things to Do, Places to Visit

Chula Vista offers a wide array of attractions and activities to entertain visitors and residents year round. The near-perfect Mediterranean climate lends itself to multiple outdoor recreational activities. The City operates 50 public parks with facilities ranging from passive walking trails to ball parks and tennis courts to gymnasiums with full-service recreational programs.

Chula Vista's scenic harbor offers spectacular views and easy access to southern San Diego Bay. The City and San Diego Unified Port District are finalizing dynamic plans to further develop the bay front to include additional public amenities as well as retail, residential and commercial opportunities. A major hotel/convention center, the first in Chula Vista, is part of the bay front master plan.

Chula Vista provides cultural facilities such as the Chula Vista Heritage Museum, Onstage Playhouse, the San Diego Junior Theatre, the Chapman Performing Arts Center, and the award-winning Chula Vista Public Library system that, in addition to providing library services, coordinates numerous cultural activities and events in the City.

CHULA VISTA NATURE CENTER

Annual Attendance: 50,000+ Located in the Sweetwater Marsh National Wildlife Refuge, the Chula Vista Nature Center offers a rare view of the natural history and ecology of California wetlands. A fascinating interactive Discovery Center, Shark and Ray tank, aviaries housing waterbirds, eagles, hawks and owls, bird watching platforms, gardens and miles of trails are all available to the public.

CHULA VISTA VISITOR INFORMATION CENTER

The Chula Vista Visitor Information Center, located at the Bayfront Trolley Station off Interstate 5, offers services to visitors seven days a week. The Chula Vista Convention & Visitors Bureau provides assistance in planning a visit to Chula Vista. General information as well as help with hotel accommodations and transportation is available. www. chulavistaconvis.org

CHULA VISTA HARBOR

The harbor includes two bayside parks, fine dining restaurants, two marinas, 900 slips for pleasure craft, an RV park, and is home to the Chula Vista Yacht Club. Concerts and festivals are frequently staged at the parks and the marina hosts the annual Arturo Barrios Invitational 5K & 10K races.

COORS AMPHITHEATRE

Annual Attendance: 290,000+

San Diego County's only major outdoor amphitheater designed specifically for concerts with seating for 20,000, features a wide range of world-renowned entertainers including: Elton John, Santana, Jimmy Buffett, Aerosmith and Cheryl Crow.

KNOTT'S SOAK CITY U.S.A.

Estimated Annual Attendance: 300,000+ Knott's Soak City USA is a top quality water adventure park. The park has a 1950's San Diego coast theme and features 22 rides including speed slides, wave pools and body flumes.

GOLF COURSES

Four golf courses, 3 public and 1 private, operate with the City of Chula Vista:

Chula Vista Municipal Golf Course 4475 Bonita Road, (619) 479-4141

The Auld Golf Course

25 Hunte Pkwy, (619) 482-4666

EastLake Country Club 2375 Clubhouse Drive, (619) 482-5757

San Diego Country Club (private) 88 L Street, (619) 422-9261

U.S. OLYMPIC TRAINING CENTER

Estimated Annual Attendance: 30,000+ The Olympic Training Center is the only warm weather training facility in the United States. Athletes train in nine Olympic sports, including archery, field hockey, canoe/kayak, rowing, cycling, tennis, track and field, softball and soccer. The public can view athletes in training, take free guided tours of the facilities and shop at the Spirit Store

NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGES

Sweetwater Marsh includes 316 acres of salt marsh and coastal uplands as habitat for Light-footed Clapper Rail and California Least Tern. The 2,209-acre refuge includes mudflats, salt marshes, eel grass beds and salt ponds. There are opportunities for wildlife observation and environmental education at both refuges.

OTAY VALLEY REGIONAL PARK

This open space corridor linking San Diego Bay with Otay Lakes through Southern Chula Vista expands over more than 150 acres and will eventually become the region's centerpiece for recreation, eco-tourism and habitat conservation.